Motion for Adjournment for Purposes of Debate.

After question-time, Mr. S. S. Koder handed over to the President a written statement, asking leave (under R. 18) to make a motion for adjournment of the business of the House to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, to wit, the location of a latrine by the side of the Jewish cemetery in Mattancherry.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

Sir, I rise to a point of order. Rule 20 (2) of the Legislative Council Rules runs thus:— "If the President is of opinion that the matter proposed to be discussed is in order, he shall read the statement to the Council and ask whether the member has the leave of the Council. If no objection is taken, the President shall intimate the hour at which the motion will be taken. If objection is taken, the President shall request those members who support the motion to rise in their places, and, if not less than twenty members rise accordingly, he shall similarly intimate the hour. If less than twenty members rise, the President shall inform the member that he has not the leave of the Council."

President— Under Standing Order No. 18, Mr. Koder has asked for my permission to move the motion. The motion can be taken up, if at all, only after 3 p. m. Before we disperse for lunch, I hope to give my decision.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

Sir, a point of order. If the statement is in order, the President *shall* read it to the Council, and ask whether the member has the leave of the Council. I request that the President will please read the statement to the Council.

President.— Yes. The President has not only to rule whether the papers handed over to him are in order but also to read the statement in the presence of the members. That is the rule. But should not my consent be obtained? Is not my consent necessary under Rule 18 of the Council Rules?

The information in the matter proposed to be discussed is in order; but I take time to give my consent to move the motion for adjournment.

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Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

There is nothing in the rules to prevent the President from taking time. The consent need not be given at once.

President.— If I take time, it is not the same thing as giving consent.

Mr. M. KRISHNA MENON (*Vyttila*).

It is a condition precedent.

President.— It is a matter left for my decision.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

The President has to form an opinion. There is nothing compelling him to form an opinion instantaneously. The provision is that, if an adjournment motion is made, the President must ask the leave of the Council, and if the leave of the Council is obtained, the motion must be taken up at 3-30 or 3 o'clock. The Council can be asked at any time before half past three.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

There is nothing in the rules to that effect.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

Nothing to the contrary, rather.

President.— How can the President give a decision on the spur of the moment? If the matter is of urgent public importance, previous notice must have been given, if an immediate decision has to be given.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

I have noted instances in which time is taken to give the leave.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

I leave it to the President.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

Ordinarily, the statement is handed over before the meeting of the Council. Then the President has time to consider and give his decision.

(The consent asked for was subsequently refused by the President).

VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

President.—Before we proceed further with the consideration of the motions on the budget, I wish to make a statement for the information of the members

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